International/Biddding for Kawas and Gandhar projects

841. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any International Competitive Bidding (ICB) for natural gas contract for Kawas and Gandhar gas-based NTPC power projects;

(b) if so, the details of the bidders, along with the cost of gas quoted in dollars/ million btu;

(c) whether the offer of the lowest bidder was accepted and Letter of Intent issued;

(d) if so, the status of gas supply contract;

(e) whether the lowest offer accepted by NTPC is being benchmarked as the cost of natural gas for future power projects by the Ministry; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. NTPC invited bids under International Competitive Bidding (ICB) for procurement of Gas for Kawas and Gandhar power projects.

(b) The name of the bidders along with price of gas quoted in dollars/million btu is given as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Bidder	Price of Gas*
1.	Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL)	US Dollar 3.18 per Million British Thermal Unit (MMBtu) for supply of Natural Gas at Power Plant Boundary
2.	PETRONAS, Malaysia	USD 3.63 per MMBtu for LNG Supply price on CIF basis at Dahei port & Hazira port.
3.	PETRONET Consortium	USD 0.71 per MMBtu (at Dahej port) only for Regasification and Transportation charges up to power plant boundary

* The price quoted do not include Taxes and Duties in India.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) Because the lowest bidder, RIL didn't sign the Gas Sale Purchase Agreement (GSPA). NTPC Ltd. has filed a suit in the Bombay High Court. The matter is *sub-judice*.

Recast of APDRP

842. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are likely to announce a recast of its key reform tool in the power sector the Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP), to provide a fresh impetus to the ongoing efforts to give incentives to States to turn around the power distribution sector;

(b) if so, whether the recast APDRP would focus entirely on the power distribution system and funds under the programme would be extended directly to distribution utilities, instead of the current system of routing it through State Governments; and

(c) if so, to what extent it would be helpful?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Government had launched Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme (APDRP) in the year 2002-03 with the objective of encouraging reforms and of reduction in Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses, improving quality of supply of power and improving consumer satisfaction. On the basis of evaluation of APDRP and based on the recommendations of the Task Force headed by Shri P. Abraham, Former Secretary (Power), appointed for this purpose, a proposal has been moved for approval of modified APDRP in the Eleventh Five Year Plan.

Coal linkages for power projects in Maharashtra

843. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the power starved Maharashtra Government heaved a major relief as the Prime Minister gave directions to expedite the procedures for allocation of coal linkages to various power projects in the State with the generation capacity of over 3,300 MW, and also provide environment clearances as early as possible;

(b) if so, to what extent Prime Minister's directives have been implemented and to what extent the State Government's power crisis has been solved; and

(c) the latest position of power available to the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The requests from Maharashtra State Power Generation Company (MAHAGENCO) for tapering linkage (till the captive coal blocks allotted to them are developed) for five thermal power plants within Maharashtra aggregating generation capacity of 3,300 MW, have been received by Ministry of Coal. The matter is under consideration of the competent authority of Ministry of Coal.

As regard environment clearances, MAHAGENCO has informed that the Draft Rapid Environmental Impact Assessment reports are under preparation for all of these projects.

(c) Details of power supply position in Maharashtra during the month of July, 2007 and for the period April-July, 2007 is given below:

Energy in Million Units (MUs)

	July, 2007	April, 2007-July, 2007
Requirement	8247	37287
Availability	7361	30647
Shortage	886	6640
%-age	10.7	17.8